No. 8

PEP COMICS

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THE SHIELD

G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY

BY IRVING NOVICK AND HARRY SHORTEN

SCENE 6

OUR COUNTRY HAS FOSTERED MANY GLORIOUS PATRIOTS WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR ALL IN ITS DEFENSE.... BUT NONE WHO HAVE BEEN MORE UNSELFISH IN HIS SACRIFICES, MORE COURAGEOUS IN ITS DEFENSE, MORE DESTRUCTIVE TO ITS ENEMIES THAN THAT G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY, THE *SHIELD*... KNOWN IN HIS TRUE IDENTITY AS JOE HIGGINS, ONLY BY THE CHIEF OF THE F.B.I...

OPENING NIGHT AT GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE IN HOLLYWOOD..

YOUR PICTURE LOOKS LIKE A HIT, JOHN..

YES, BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT THAT SUMMONS--I HAD NO IDEA THAT THE JEWELERY I BOUGHT WAS SMUGGLED!

I FEEL TERRIBLE. I INTRODUCED YOU TO THOSE JEWELLERS!

FORGET IT.. YOU DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE SMUGGLERS

JOHN LOVERIDGE'S LATEST PICTURE IS PREVIEWED..

THE PICTURE DRAWS TO AN END IN A CRASHING CLIMAX...

AND NOW, YOUR TIME HAS COME!

BANG

HELP!

THE LIGHTS ARE FLASHED ON, AND...

HELP! LOVERIDGE WAS MURDERED! THE SHOT CAME FROM THE SCREEN!

THE POLICE ARRIVE...

SEARCH EVERYBODY SITTING NEAR LOVERIDGE FOR WEAPONS!

THE BULLET WHISTLED BY MY EAR!

IT SOUNDS NUTS!...BUT THE WAY THE BULLET HIT HIM...IT MIGHT HAVE COME FROM THE SCREEN!

..AND THERE WASN'T ANYBODY SITTING IN FRONT OF THEM!

I INSPECTED THE SCREEN AND THE STAGE...NOT A CLUE!

WOTTA STORY! LOVERIDGE SHOOTS HIMSELF FROM THE SCREEN! THE CHIEF'LL THROW ME IN THE BOOBY HATCH!

THE NEXT DAY... BEN JACKEY, ANOTHER MOVIE STAR, RECEIVES A COURT SUMMONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SMUGGLED JEWELERY

DRIVE TO THE POLICE STATION, JIMMIE

I KNEW THAT THE JEWELERY THEY SOLD ME WAS TOO CHEAP... I'LL TELL THE POLICE EVERYTHING I KNOW!

JACKEY LIFTS THE MOUTHPIECE TO TALK TO HIS CHAUFFEUR...AND...

BJ-4

WHAT HAPPENED?

HE STARTED TO TALK INTO THE MOUTHPIECE. ...AND THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION! THAT'S ALL I KNOW!

ALARM

THE WEIRD MURDERS ARE FEATURED BY THE NEWS PAPERS...

AND GET THIS CHIEF! BIFF CROSSLEY IS THE THIRD GUY IN THIS SMUGGLED DIAMOND RACKET! BOY! IS HE SCARED!

THAT NIGHT... IN STATION W-S-G-G...

AND NOW, WE PRESENT THE BRADY'S BETTER BACON PROGRAM... STARRING BIFF CROSSLEY!

THEY'LL TRY TO KILL ME, NEXT... MAYBE TONIGHT...I..I MUST DO SOMETHING!

S G G

AT THAT MOMENT...BETTY WARREN IS ENTERTAINING JOE HIGGINS.

LET'S LISTEN TO THE BIFF CROSSLEY PROGRAM.

AN AMAZING ANNOUNCEMENT COMES OVER THE AIR..

THIS IS BIFF CROSSLEY...I APPEAL TO THE SHIELD, WHEREVER HE MAY BE, TO HELP ME! HE'S THE ONLY ONE...AWRKK!

THE SHIELD! WHY THAT'S YOUR FRIEND, JOE!

LET GO! I DON'T WANT TO DIE! THE SHIELD CAN SAVE ME!

THE PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE IN JUST A MOMENT...

ER..THAT'S RIGHT... HE'S MY FRIEND... WHEREVER HE GOES, I GO! RIGHT NOW WE'RE BOTH GOING TO HOLLYWOOD!

BUT NOT WITHOUT ME!

IN HOOVER'S HOME...

I'D LIKE TO HANDLE THAT HOLLYWOOD CASE, CHIEF!

YOU'LL HAVE TO GO UNOFFICIALLY! G-MEN AREN'T SUPPOSED TO INTERVENE IN STATE CRIMES!

DAYS LATER... A SINISTER GROUP CONVENES . . . .

THE HEAT'S ON! THE POLICE ARE GETTING WISE TO OUR SMUGGLING SYNDICATE – WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST!

THERE'S JUST ONE MORE PERSON WHO CAN BLOW US ALL SKY-HIGH! YOU KNOW WHO I MEAN – GET GOING!

LATER, A CAR PULLS UP AT THE CROSSLEY ESTATE . . . . . .

CAN'T LET ANYBODY IN. I GOT STRICT ORDERS!

DON'T ARGUE WITH THE MUG, JOE.

YEAH? WELL, THIS GAT SAYS DIFFERENT, SUCKER!

WHILE INSIDE THE HOUSE!

BUT YOU'VE GOT TO COME TO THE STUDIO, BIFF. I'M YOUR LEADING LADY AND YOU'RE HOLDING UP PRODUCTION!

NO, NO! THEY'LL KILL ME!

JUST THEN.....

START PUMPIN' LEAD, SLUG, AND LET'S GET THE JOB DONE!

D...DON'T SHOOT. P...PLEASE!

COUNT ME IN ON THIS PARTY, BOYS!

THE SHIELD! HELP!

OW! NOW WE'RE SUNK!

COME ON NOW. YOU MUGS ARE GOING TO TELL ME WHO IS BEHIND THESE MURDERS!

O.K. SHIELD, I'LL TALK!

SUDDENLY A BULLET WHISTLES PAST *THE SHIELD'S* EAR!

AAGH! I'M SHOT!

THE SHIELD LEAPS TO THE WINDOW!

WHOEVER FIRED THAT SHOT SURE GOT AWAY IN A HURRY!

MEANWHILE, BETTY DOES SOME SLEUTHING ON HER OWN

I'M BETTY WARREN. I'D LIKE TO APPLY FOR AN "EXTRA" ROLE IN BIFF CROSSLEY'S PICTURE.

UH.. BETTY WARREN.. ER SURE - JUST THE TYPE! WE'VE GOT A GREAT PART FOR YOU!

OH THANK YOU!

BETTY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'VE GOT MYSELF A JOB WHERE I CAN ALSO KEEP AN EYE ON BIFF CROSSLEY.

ADE STU

BUT YOU CAN'T DO THAT! THIS BUSINESS IS TOO DANGEROUS!

IT WON'T BE DANGEROUS FOR ME! G-MAN

THERE'S THAT G MAN THE BOSS TOLD US ABOUT

OKAY! LET'S GET HIM!

QUIET, MUG, INTO THE CAR

HEY WHAT'S THIS!

I'LL JUST PLAY POSSUM. MAYBE I'LL FIND SOMETHING.

THEY'RE USING ONE OF THE STUDIO HOUSES FOR THEIR HEADQUARTERS. THAT MEANS-

OUTSIDE YOU!

HERE HE IS!

YEAH! AND THAT DAME WITH HIM IS ALSO TAKEN CARE OF. WAIT'LL SHE TRIES TO OPEN THE COMPACT IN HER DRESSING ROOM!

JUPITER! BETTY'S IN DANGER!

THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON WE'RE AFRAID OF.....*THE SHIELD!* YOU KNOW WHO HE IS AND YOU'RE GOING TO TELL US, OR ELSE!

OR ELSE WHAT!...

OR ELSE WE'LL MAKE IT VERY UNCOMFORTABLE FOR YOU. TAKE OFF HIS SHOES, BOYS!

HEY DON'T!

A RED HOT POKER AGAINST YOUR FEET OUGHT TO LOOSEN YOUR TONGUE!

GREAT SCOT! IF THEY TAKE OFF MY SHOES, MY BOOTS UNDERNEATH WILL BE A DEAD GIVE-AWAY!

THIS IS THE MOST PRECARIOUS SITUATION *THE SHIELD* HAS EVER FACED. IF HE RESISTS, OR SUBMITS HE WILL BE DISCOVERED. WILL *THE SHIELD'S* REAL IDENTITY BE UNCOVERED!

SAY I SMELL SOMETHING FUNNY!

YES, ME TOO!

SOMEONE'S LOCKED THE DOOR!

WE....COUGH...COUGH..... WE'VE BEEN DOUBLED-CROSSED!

I'M...COUGH... I'M CHOKIN' TO DEATH!

MUSTARD GAS! IT'S AFFECTING MY LUNGS!

THE LUNG-SEARING MUSTARD GAS TAKES IMMEDIATE EFFECT

THEY'RE ALL DEAD... ...AND I'M HALF-DEAD MYSELF.....WAIT A MINUTE. SOMEBODY'S COMING IN!

IF I TACKLE HIM NOW, I MAY LOSE TIME—AND EVERY SECOND BRINGS BETTY CLOSER TO HER DEATH!

MEANWHILE, BETTY MAKES UP FOR HER ROLE

WHY, IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE! I SIMPLY APPLIED FOR AN EXTRA'S JOB, AND THEY GAVE ME A DRESSING ROOM OF MY OWN!

I GUESS THEY MUST HAVE SEEN SOME TALENT IN ME!

MY WHAT AN ODD-LOOKING COMPACT! THIS LITTLE BUTTON SEEMS TO BE THE ONE TO OPEN IT!

SUDDENLY

BETTY! DON'T OPEN THAT COMPACT!

THE SHIELD!

JOHN LOVERIDGE OPENED IT ONCE FOR JOYCE LARUE..... AND YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.

GOOD HEAVENS! BUT... HOW:... WHAT...

PERFECTLY SIMPLE..... SEE? THE BULLET STRUCK HIM BETWEEN THE EYES!

AND... AND.. IT WOULD HAVE KILLED ME, IF.....

SORRY BUT I CAN'T WAIT FOR THANKS!

PRODUCTION ON THE CROSSLEY PICTURE IS HELD UP!

WHERE IS THAT YELLOW PUP, CROSSLEY. YOU TOLD ME HE WOULD SHOW UP!

HE SAID HE WOULD. MAYBE HE GOT SCARED AT THE LAST MOMENT!

VON SCHMUTZ

CROSSLEY ARRIVES!

I'M... I'M... READY TO GO TO WORK!

THANK HEAVENS! YOU CAN GET RID OF THOSE GORILLAS. YOU'RE SAFE ENOUGH NOW!

QUIET EVERYBODY! WE'RE ABOUT TO BEGIN SHOOTING!

OKAY! THERE'S THE SIGNAL, SLUG!

I'LL GIVE IT ALL THE JUICE ITS GOT!

AT THAT MOMENT ATOP ONE OF THE CRANES!

STAY WHERE YOU ARE! FIRST ONE TO MOVE EATS LEAD!

WHAT'S THIS! I....

SUDDENLY...A BRILLIANT BLINDING SPOTLIGHT IS FOCUSED ONTO THE SETTING BELOW!

I...I... CAN'T SEE!

HELP! THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME!

BOY, THIS IS A CINCH! WITH THIS LIGHT, I CAN'T MISS!

BUT FROM NOWHERE THE G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY SUDDENLY APPEARS

VERY CLEVER! AND NOW I'LL START TO ACT CUTE!

IT'S *THE SHIELD*! I'M GETTIN' OUTTA HERE!

NOT BEFORE I DO!

HOW'D HE GET HERE!

I DON'T KNOW BUT I AIN'T STAYIN' TO FIND OUT!

WAIT A MINUTE BOYS, I'LL HELP YOU DOWN!

HOW'S THAT FOR SERVICE!

BULL'S EYE! I HAVEN'T LOST MY PITCHING ARM, YET!

JOYCE LA RUE FRANTICALLY MAKES HER ESCAPE!

HE...HE'S INHUMAN! I KNOW A SECRET EXIT! IF ONLY.....

TRY TO KILL ME, WILL YOU, YOU.... YOU SIREN!

LET GO OF ME!

BUT BETTY WARREN GIVES CHASE

I'LL ROUND UP THAT GANG! THE POLICE MAY NEED THEM FOR QUESTIONING!

THE KILLERS RUN ONTO A MINING LOCATION!

HERE'S A MINING SHAFT WITH AN ELEVATOR. LETS GET IN!

HOOT OWL MINING CORP.

WE'RE SAFE NOW, HE'LL NEVER GET US!

YEAH! WE SURE OUTSMARTED HIM!

SO THE RATS ARE TRYING TO CRAWL INTO THEIR HOLE!

HEY BOYS, YOU TOOK THE WRONG ELEVATOR. THIS ONE'S GOING UP!

THERE WE ARE..... TIED NICE AND NEAT, AND ALL READY FOR DELIVERY!

LEMME OUTTA HERE!

I DON'T UNDER-STAND YOU BOYS. FIRST YOU'RE IN A HURRY TO GET IN, AND NOW YOU WANT TO GET OUT!

HELP! POLICE!

I GUESS WHEN THE POLICE GET HERE, THOSE BIRDS WILL BE READY TO TELL EVERYTHING THEY KNOW!

WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE!...

HEY LOOKA THAT! THAT'S A NEW ONE ON ME!

HA, HA. THEY LOOK LIKE DROWNED RATS!

GET US OUTTA HERE! WE'RE DROWNIN'!

JOE HIGGINS REAPPEARS!

HEY, CROSSLEY! WAIT A MINUTE!

STUDIO F QUIET PLEASE

WHY IT'S HIGGINS! I'M CERTAINLY GLAD TO SEE YOU!

BETTY BRINGS BACK HER WOMAN!

WELL, MR. SMARTY HIGGINS! I CAPTURED THE RING-LEADER, JOYCE LA RUE!

GOOD WORK, BETTY! ONLY, SHE ISN'T THE RING-LEADER!

IT'S BIFF CROSSLEY! YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT EITHER, HUH, MISS LA RUE!

WHY... YOU'RE MAD! EVERYBODY KNOWS THEY TRIED TO KILL ME!

C... CROSSLEY! B... BUT HOW...

YEAH! EVERYBODY EXCEPT ME. I RECOGNIZED YOU BEHIND THAT GAS MASK WHEN YOU CAME IN TO MAKE SURE WE WERE ALL DEAD!

YOU'LL NEVER TAKE ME ALIVE!

WHY CROSSLEY'S DEAD. WHAT HAPPENED?

HE JUST SAVED THE STATE THE EXPENSE OF EXECUTING HIM.... THE REST OF HIS OUTFIT, WHOM HE DOUBLED CROSSED ARE ON LOT 4!

THAT BROADCAST FOR THE *SHIELD* WAS A SMART TRICK. IT DIVERTED SUSPICION - CROSSLEY HAD EVEN HIS OWN GANG FOOLED. NO ONE KNEW WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE. THINGS WERE GETTING TOO HOT SO HE DECIDED TO RUB OUT HIS OWN ORGANIZATION - JOYCE LA RUE FIRST...

BUT.... CROSSLEY TOLD US THEY CAME TO HIS HOUSE TO KILL HIM.

IT WAS MISS LA RUE THEY WERE AFTER. SHE DIDN'T KNOW IT, BUT SHE ALMOST GAVE THE SIGNAL FOR HER OWN DEATH!

WELL, I'LL BE...

NOVICK

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THE *SHIELD* HAS MORE BLOOD-CURDLING ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

THE COMET

JOHN DICKERING, A YOUNG SCIENTIST, HAS DISCOVERED A GAS WHICH, WHEN INJECTED INTO THE BLOODSTREAM, ALLOWS HIM TO MAKE GREAT FLIGHTS THROUGH THE AIR. THE GAS ALSO CAUSES HIS EYES TO GIVE OFF A DISINTEGRATING RAY THAT ONLY GLASS WILL STOP! DUE TO CRIMES HE COMMITTED WHILE UNDER THE SPELL OF AN EVIL HYPNOTIST, THE COMET IS WANTED BY THE POLICE, BUT—AIDED BY THELMA GORDON, A YOUNG NEWSPAPERWOMAN, AND THE ONLY PERSON WHO KNOWS HIS TRUE IDENTITY, THE COMET CONDUCTS A ONE-MAN WAR AGAINST CRIME AND OPPRESSION!

A CROWDED SHOPPING DISTRICT IN A BUSTLING EASTERN CITY.

A BOOMING VOICE BLARES FORTH FROM NOWHERE!

PREPARE TO DIE! THE MASTER SPEAKS!

WAVES OF HIGH-VOLTAGE ELECTRICITY MOW DOWN SCORES OF INNOCENT CITIZENS!

THE GOVERNOR MEETS WITH HIS BOARD!

GENTLEMEN, THE REASON FOR THE MASS MURDER IS CLEAR! I HAVE THIS NOTE FROM THE FIEND WHO DID IT! HE DEMANDS ONE MILLION DOLLARS OR HE'LL REPEAT THE HORRIBLE CRIME!

THE STATE LEGISLATURE MEETS IN EMERGENCY SESSION!

I PROPOSE WE MEET THE DEMANDS OF THIS MADMAN AND SPARE THE LIVES OF THE CITIZENS OF THIS FAIR STATE!

SUDDENLY—THE COMET FLASHES INTO VIEW!

YOU CAN'T GIVE IN TO THE WHIMS OF A MURDERER! YOU'VE GOT TO FIGHT HIM! GIVE ME 24 HOURS AND - - -

THE COMET! SHOOT TO KILL!

STILL TRYING TO KILL ME, HUH? WELL, HERE'S WHERE I LEAVE!

I'VE GOT TO TALK TO THELMA! IF WE CAN GET HER NEWSPAPER TO TAKE A FIRM STAND, WE'VE GOT A CHANCE!

LATER—IN THELMA GORDON'S APARTMENT

I AGREE WITH YOU, JOHN! BUT THE PEOPLE ARE PANIC-STRICKEN!

IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE THAT FIEND WOULD STRIKE NEXT!

AT THAT INSTANT, THE VOICE OF TERROR BOOMS!

PREPARE TO DIE! THE MASTER SPEAKS!

SO THEY'RE PLAYING RIGHT IN OUR OWN BACKYARD!

ABOVE THE CROWDED STREET, THE COMET LIFTS HIS VISOR!

I HOPE THIS WORKS!

THE DISINTEGRATING RAY FROM THE COMET'S EYES DESTROYS THE ELECTRICAL WAVES!

HA! THAT'S WHAT I HOPED WOULD HAPPEN!

THE DAILY BLAST EXCLUSIVE !!!.. BY THELMA GORDON

COMET THWARTS FIEND'S DEATH RAY

MEANWHILE, IN A ROOM NOT FAR AWAY!

THE COMET MUST BE DESTROYED! I-THE MASTER COMMAND IT!

THE DAILY BLAST COMET THWARTS FIENDS

BUT HOW, BOSS? NOBODY KNOWS WHO HE IS!

EVERY TIME THE COMET PULLS ONE OF HIS STUNTS, THIS THELMA GORDON HAS THE EXCLUSIVE STORY! IT CAN'T BE COINCIDENCE - SHE MUST KNOW HIM! GET THAT GIRL!

AS THELMA GORDON LEAVES HER OFFICE!

TAKE IT EASY, SIS!

YOU'RE COMIN' WITH US, BABY!

NO USE, BOSS! SHE WON'T TALK!

OKAY! NOW LISTEN, SISTER! YOU'RE GOING TO WRITE A NOTE TO YOUR PAPER.

IS THELMA GORDON SAVING HER LIFE AT THE COST OF OTHERS?

I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE! I'LL WRITE IT!

YOU'RE GOING TO SAY THAT THE FIRST TIME THE COMET INTERFERES WITH US—YOU DIE!

BILL! TEAR OUT THE FRONT PAGE! HERE'S A NOTE FROM THELMA AND WE'RE RUNNING IT!

THE DAILY BLAST

REPORTER KIDNAPPED BY MASS MURDERER! SENDS NOTE TO PAPER!

I AM BEING HELD CAPTIVE BY A MAN WHOSE IDEA OF COMEDY IS EVIDENTLY TO BE SO COMPLETELY TENACIOUS IN HIS DEMANDS THAT THE GOVERNOR WILL CHERISH THE LIVES OF THE MAN IN THE STREET TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT.....

THE COMET WAITS PATIENTLY FOR THE EVENING PAPER. THEN..

OUR PLAN IS WORKING! HERE'S THE MESSAGE FROM THELMA!

BY READING THE LAST WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE, THE COMET DISCOVERS WHERE THELMA IS BEING HELD!

CAPTIVE, COME— TO TEN- THAT CHER- STREET

TEN THATCHER STREET, HUH? THAT'S IT RIGHT BELOW HERE!

OKAY, BOYS! TAKE THE MACHINE TO BROAD AND WALL AND LET 'EM HAVE IT! WE'LL GET THAT MONEY, OR ELSE!

AM I IN TIME FOR TEA, FELLOWS?

THE G-G-COMET!

YOUR TERRORISM IS ALL OVER! HERE'S WHERE—

DON'T LIFT THAT VISOR!

THE MASTER MIND SLYLY PRESSES A BUTTON!

A NET OF SPUN GLASS DROPS FROM THE CEILING!

THE COMET'S DISINTEGRATING RAY WILL NOT PIERCE THE SPUN GLASS NET!

YOU SEE, MR. COMET, WE ARE PREPARED FOR EVERYTHING!

NICE WORK, THELMA!

HEY! LOOK OUT!

THELMA THROWS THE SWITCH!

WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? I'M THE MASTER!

WHILE THE COMET STALLS FOR TIME....

THE RAY FROM THE MACHINE, MEETING THE COMET'S RAY, COMPLETELY DIS-SOLVES THE GLASS NET

BOOM!

YOU DIDN'T GIVE THOSE INNOCENT PEOPLE A CHANCE! I'M NOT GIVING YOU A CHANCE, EITHER!

WUXTRY! COMET WIPES OUT DEATH MACHINE! WUXTRY!

YOU SHOULD FEEL PROUD OF YOURSELF JOHN!

A FEW MINUTES LATER!

THAT'S THE END OF TEN THATCHER STREET AND THE DEATH MACHINE!

THE DAILY BLAST EXTRA! COMET WIPES OUT MASTER MIND! EXTRA! MAD SCIENTIST'S DEATH MACHINE DESTROYED! BY-THELMA GORDON

WHY? IF A COP RECOGNIZED ME, I'D BE SHOT DOWN THIS MINUTE! THAT'S THE KIND OF A LIFE I'M DESTINED TO LIVE!

MORE ADVENTURES of THE COMET IN THE NEW ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

PERRY CHASE.... BY MESKIN AND SUNDELL

PRESS GUARDIAN

ONLY CYNTHIA BLAKE, PERRY CHASE'S SECRETARY, KNOWS THAT PERRY CHASE IS THE DAUNTLESS AND MUCH FEARED *PRESS GUARDIAN*....

SEVERAL TIMES, THE WATERS OF NORTH HARBOR ARE ROCKED BY THUNDEROUS EXPLOSIONS AS THE CARGOES IN FREIGHT SHIPS MYSTERIOUSLY EXPLODE!

A REPORTER OF THE *DAILY EXPRESS*, SUSPECTING MORE THAN ACCIDENT, DISAPPEARS, AFTER QUESTIONING SEVERAL WATER-FRONT CHARACTERS...

A SECOND REPORTER IS FOUND ON THE BEACH, WASHED UP BY THE TIDES, TWO DAYS LATER!

LOOK, POP, EVEN IF THOSE BLOWN UP SHIPS WERE ACCIDENTS, THOSE MURDERS WEREN'T! HOW ABOUT LETTING ME AND CYNTHIA TAKE OVER THIS STORY...

YOU STICK TO SOCIETY REPORTING, SON, THE POLICE CAN HANDLE THAT KIND OF BUSINESS!

IN THE PUBLISHER'S OFFICE OF THE *DAILY EXPRESS*...

WHERE ARE WE GOING, PERRY? WHY ARE WE HEADING DOWN TOWARDS THE DOCKS?

YOU DON'T THINK I'M LAYING OFF THIS CASE JUST BECAUSE MY FATHER THINKS I SHOULD..... THOSE TWO DEAD REPORTERS WERE FRIENDS OF MINE.....YOU WAIT HERE WHILE I LOOK AROUND!

HMM....LOADING UP....MUST BE GETTING READY TO LEAVE TONIGHT!

SUDDENLY....

THIS'LL SHOW YUH WE DON'T WANT YOUR KIND AROUND HERE!

SCRAM, SNOOPER! STAY IN YER OWN BACK YARD IF YAH DON'T WANT YER TOES STEPPED ON!

SURE BUD, BUT FIRST...

TRY THIS!

UGH!

HE'LL BE SAFE FOR AWHILE....AND WEARING HIS CLOTHES, I CAN MINGLE WITH THE CROWDS ON THE DOCK!

WOW! THEY'RE LOADING UP WITH GASOLINE. THAT COULD BLOW A BOAT SKY-HIGH IN TWO MINUTES!

HEY, SLUG! DID YA HEAR ABOUT..... HEY! YOU AIN'T SLUG!

BUT YOU'RE WEARIN' SLUG'S CLOTHES! YOU MUSTA KNOCKED SLUG OFF! HEY! MEN! A SNOOPER!

GET HIM!

NOT WHILE I'M STILL ON MY FEET!

HE WASN'T SO TOUGH!

TIE HIM UP AND THROW HIM INTO THE FREIGHTER'S GUEST ROOM!

PERRY FIGHTS BACK, BUT AFRAID THAT SOMEONE MAY RECOGNIZE HIM AS PERRY CHASE, WHO IS SUPPOSED TO BE A COWARD, HE ALLOWS HIMSELF TO BE OVERCOME!

PARTY'S OVER, BOYS! GET YOUR HANDS UP!

CYNTHIA!

NICE LADIES DON'T PLAY WITH GUNS! I'M SO SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR DELIGHTFUL LITTLE GAME!

THE CLAW! I THOUGHT...

.....I WAS DEAD! I'M VERY SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, MISS BLAKE, BUT I'M STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE. AND THIS TIME THE GUN IS IN MY HANDS, AND I HAVE NO QUALMS ABOUT USING IT!

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH US?

YOU YELLOW DOG, I'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO MEDDLE IN MY AFFAIRS!

IN FIVE MINUTES WE'RE TAKING YOU OUT TO SEA IN THIS OLD TUB, AND WE'LL BLOW YOU SKY-HIGH WITH IT. NICE RACKET THIS..... I BUY OLD TUBS, CHANGE THEIR NAMES AND REGISTRATIONS, INSURE THEM TO THE HILT, AND THEN DESTROY THEM..... EASY MONEY, NO?

IT WAS A GOOD TRY, CYNTHIA!

AFTER THE CLAW LEAVES, PERRY SEES A PUDDLE OF OIL ON THE FLOOR, AND DECIDES TO USE IT TO ATTEMPT TO LOOSEN HIS BONDS!

THAT DOES IT. THE OIL MAKES MY WRISTS SO GREASY, THE ROPE SLIPS RIGHT OFF!

GOOD! NOW UNTIE ME!

THE HINGES ON THE DOOR LOOK RUSTY. I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO!

WHEE-E

QUICK, CYN, DUCK OVER THE SIDE AND GET THE POLICE I'LL STOP THIS SHIP FROM SAILING!

HEY, YOU DIRTY DOGS! HERE I AM! COME AND GET ME!

THE SNOOPER'S LOOSE, C'MON!

THERE HE GOES! AROUND THAT CABIN!

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE, BOYS!

THAT ISN'T THE SNOOPER!

THAT'S— THE— PRESS GUARDIAN!

MAY I JOIN THE PARTY?

C'MON, YOU MUGS, THE NEXT WALTZ IS MINE!

THAT TAKES CARE OF THEM! OH-OH! HERE COMES CYNTHIA WITH THE POLICE! I BETTER DUCK OUT!

THE PARTY'S OVER, BOYS! WE'VE GOT A SPECIAL CELL ALL RESERVED FOR YOU!

NEXT DAY!

THE RACKET IS EXPOSED, AND THE INSURANCE COMPANIES WILL SEE THAT IT DOESN'T HAPPEN AGAIN..... BUT WHAT BECAME OF THE CLAW?

I SAW HIM DIVE OVERBOARD WHEN HE SAW ME..... ER--I MEAN THE PRESS GUARDIAN!

MORE ADVENTURES OF The PRESS GUARDIAN IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

FU CHANG *International* DETECTIVE

FU CHANG, CHINESE SCHOLAR AND DETECTIVE IS HEIR TO THE MAGIC CHESSMEN OF ALADDIN AND USES THEM TO BRING PEACE AND GOOD-WILL THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD —

ALIEN SMUGGLERS, IN THE PACIFIC, WHEN OVERTAKEN BY THE COAST GUARD, DROP THEIR HUMAN CARGO INTO THE SHARK INFESTED WATERS

JANE S.

BEFORE THE SHARKS CAN COMPLETE THEIR DINNER, THE COAST GUARD ARRIVES — AND THE LAST VICTIM IS RESCUED!

DRAG HIM ABOARD- HE'S STILL LIVING!

TAKE HIM BELOW — IF WE KEEP HIM ALIVE, HE MAY BE ABLE TO TELL US WHO IS BEHIND THE SMUGGLING RING!

SAY— THIS GUY IS NO COOLIE — HE'S DRESSED AND HE LOOKS LIKE A MANDARIN!

MEANWHILE, ABOARD THE SMUGGLING SHIP, PORTYGEE, THE HOOKER AND HIS MEN CURSE THE COAST GUARD

BLAST 'EM! THAT'S ANOTHER LOAD WE DON'T GET PAID FOR!

HAH! THEY GEEVE OP THE CHASE. WE ARE SAFE NOW!

THEES WATER AROUND FREESCO GET TOO UNHEALTHY— I GO, SEE BOSS TONIGHT!

YEAH— PORTYGEE. MAYBE THE BOSS CAN HAVE THE COAST GUARD STOPPED— WE AIN'T MAKIN' NO DOUGH THIS WAY!

THAT NIGHT-----

777

THE BOSS, HE SMART—HE WEEL KNOW HOW TO STOP US FROM LOSING OUR CARGO.

PORTYGEE - THE HOOKER, ENTERS THE APARTMENT OF COMMISSIONER WARREN—

'ALLO BOSS—NICE NIGHT, NO!

NO IS RIGHT! HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PAPER — YOU BUNGLING FOOL!

READ THIS! HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU THAT I DON'T WANT EVIDENCE LAYING AROUND!

WORLD NEWS

CHINESE MANDARIN NEAR DEATH-

COAST GUARD BELIEVE VICTIM TO BE KEY TO HUGE SMUGGLING RING-

THE POLICE ARE WAITING FOR AN UNIDENTIFIED CHINAMAN WHO LIES NEAR DEATH'S DOOR TO RECOVER CONSCIOUSNESS-

HE WAS PICKED OUT OF THE SHARK INFESTED WATERS WHE----

IF HE LIVES AND TALKS, WE'RE LOST—SMUGGLING I CAN KEEP QUIET—BUT MURDER IS SOMETHING EVEN I CAN'T FIX! PERHAPS PORTYGEE, WE HAD BETTER GIVE UP THIS RACKET...MAY-BE YOU'D BETTER GO BACK TO YOUR SHARK FISHING!

SHARK FISH-ING. AH! THAT GIVE ME BIG IDEA, BOSS. PERHAPS.....

...IF I HAVE CARGO FULL OF SHARKS THE COAST GUARD DO NOT LOOK FOR CHINAMAN—NO?

ALL RIGHT, DO WHAT YOU THINK IS BEST-BUT REMEM-BER—A DEAD CHINAMAN MAKES THE BEST WITNESS FOR US!

THE SAME NEWSPAPER STORY HAS BEEN READ BY FU CHANG AND HIS FIANCEE, TAY MING — TOGETHER THEY VISIT THE DYING CHINAMAN.

I'M AFRAID HE SHALL NOT RECOVER- WHATEVER HE KNOWS WILL BE TOLD ONLY TO THE GODS!

IF ONLY WE COULD DIS-COVER WHAT HE KNOWS. THEN WE COULD STOP THIS MURDERING OF OUR PEOPLE!

LET US LEAVE NOW, FU CHANG. HIS KNOW-LEDGE DIES WITH HIM!

WAIT! MAYBE NOT ALL IS LOST—MAYBE MY GOD AND MY CHESSMEN MAY HELP-THEY HAVE THE PO-WER TO READ THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEYOND!

OH GREAT GOD—COME AGAIN TO THE AID OF YOUR PEOPLE— MANY OF OUR INNOCENTS HAVE MET THEIR DEATH AT THE HANDS OF SMUGGLERS—TELL ME WHO THEY ARE SO I MAY STOP THEM!

FU CHANG'S GOD COMES TO LIFE—SHEDDING HIS LIGHT ON A LITTLE WINGED SPY

WHAT'S YOUR WISH—OH MASTER?

THE NOBLE FU CHANG SEEKS INFORMATION ABOUT A SMUGGLING RING—FIND IT FOR HIM!

GOD SPEED—LITTLE MESSENGER!

THE LITTLE FIGURE FLIES STRAIGHT TO THE HANGOUT OF PORTYGEE, THE HOOKER...

WHERE HE OVERHEARS THE PLANS OF THE SMUGGLERS

WE LEAVE TONIGHT—AND PICK UP OUR CARGO! IN A FEW HOURS WE RETURN. THEES TIME THERE IS NO SLIP-UP!

THE LITTLE SPY RETURNS TO *FU CHANG* AND REPORTS ...

IT IS LEARNED THAT THE SMUGGLERS WILL LAND AT PIER 2 ON DOCK STREET WITH A CARGO- TONIGHT AT TEN O'CLOCK!

GOOD! I SHALL BE THERE TO MEET THEM!

HELLO, HELLO, POLICE...THE ALIEN SMUGGLERS WILL LAND AT PIER 2-DOCK STREET AT TEN O'CLOCK!

SEND YOUR MEN DOWN TO MEET ME THERE... WE'LL ROUND THEM UP!

A FEW MINUTES BEFORE TEN... THE RAID STARTS!

A MOTOR CYCLE PATROL JOINS FU CHANG!

AH— THE POLICE COME —TO HELP ME BRING JUSTICE TO MY PEOPLE!

POLICE

POLICE

AT THE DOCK OF PORTYGEE- THE HOOKER,—THEY GET READY FOR ACTION

POLICE

LOOK— THE POLICE PAY US A VISIT—

GET ABOARD AND SEARCH THE SHIP, MEN!

THERE'S NO SIGN OF CHINAMEN ABOARD THIS BOAT!

SHARKS - THE WHOLE CARGO IS SHARKS! FU CHANG IS NUTS!

4

BUT I'M SURE! I CAN'T BE MISTAKEN! THERE MUST BE SOME OF MY PEOPLE ABOARD!

SOME ONE GAVE YOU A BUM STEER FU, THIS TIME YOU'RE ALL WET!

I DO NOT UNDERSTAND— THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG— SURELY MY GOD WOULD NOT FAIL ME!

OH MIGHTY GOD OF MY ANCESTORS— WHY COULD I NOT FIND WHAT I SOUGHT?

AGAIN THE GOD SHEDS THE LIGHT OF LIFE ON THE WINGED SPY-----

GO LITTLE FIGURE—AND THIS TIME DO NOT RETURN UNTIL YOU KNOW ALL THAT MUST BE KNOWN!

AGAIN THE LITTLE FIGURE FLIES STRAIGHT TO THE HIDE-OUT OF PORTYGEE, THE HOOKER.

WHERE HE HIDES UPON A BEAM TO WATCH THE PROCEEDINGS BELOW.

HANG THEM ALL OP—WE FOOL THE COPS GOOT, NO?

PORTYGEE RIPS OPEN THE SHARK'S STOMACHS---

AH! WE BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE THIS TIME. PORTYGEE, PRETTY SMART GUY!

NOW MEN, IT IS OP TO YOU TO TAKE THESE YELLOW SLAVES TO THEIR MASTERS IN CHINATOWN! I GO TO SEE THE COMMISSIONER TO COLLECT OUR CUT OF DE MONEY!

THE LITTLE FIGURE REVEALS ALL TO FU CHANG

.....YOUR PEOPLE WERE HIDDEN INSIDE THE SHARKS. LATER, THE EVIL ONE GOES TO SEE THE COMMISSION-ER.....

THE COMMISSIONER! AT LAST WE KNOW THE SOURCE OF THIS EVIL.....

FU CHANG DISCUSSES A PLAN WITH TAY MING

COMMISSIONER WARREN! I KNOW THE EVIL ONE, TAY MING....WE SHALL SCARE HIM WITH OUR LITTLE CHESSMEN! PERHAPS HE WILL CONFESS HIS GUILT!

THE FOLLOWING DAY COMMISSIONER WARREN RECEIVES A PACKAGE

HM-M! THIS IS ODD I WONDER WHAT IT CAN BE-----

GOOD GRIEF! A MINIATURE FIGURE OF THE DEAD MANDARIN!

SUDDENLY THE CHESSMAN COMES THE LIFE...

AH! EVIL ONE, YOU REMEMBER ME!

NO! NO! I MUST BE DREAMING! WHAT HAVE I DONE?

YOU ARE GUILTY OF A CRIME WORSE THAN MURDER!

NO! NO! GO AWAY. LET ME ALONE, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

I SHALL HAUNT YOU UNTIL YOU CONFESS YOUR GUILT...

I'LL CONFESS! HELP!

THAT IS GOOD, COMMISSION-ER! NOW SIGN YOUR RIGHT NAME!

YES...YES! ANYTHING YOU SAY!

A SECOND LATER FU CHANG BURSTS IN.

YOUR CELL IS WAIT-ING FOR YOU, COMMISSIONER!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS FU CHANG!

INSPECTOR, HERE'S YOUR MAN, CON-FESSION AND ALL. IT IS WRITTEN THAT CONFUCIUS ASKS, "WHO FIX CASE FOR POLITICAL FIXER WHEN POLITICAL FIXER GETS FIXED?"

MORE ADVENTURES OF **FU CHANG** IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PEP** COMICS

SERGEANT BOYLE

by BIRO AND SUNDELL

SERGEANT BOYLE, AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENT, JOINED THE BRITISH ARMY TO FIND EXCITE-MENT. . . AND HE FINDS PLENTY!

CITIZENS OF ANTWERP- AT *ANY MOMENT* WE EXPECT GERMAN OCCUPATION OF OUR CITY- *NON-CITIZENS* ARE ADVISED THAT THE LAST TRAIN WILL-

LEAVE FOR FRANCE AT 3 O'CLOCK. THERE WILL BE NO MILITARY RESISTANCE. THEREFORE NO SERIOUS CAUSE FOR ALARM!

MY DAUGHTER, ANGEL! *SHE'S* IN ANTWERP! I MUST GET HER *OUT* BE-*FORE* THE INVASION!

HEY, BOYS, HERE COMES FOSSIL FACE!

YES, GENERAL TYNWALL, I'M SURE HE'S THE MAN FOR THIS JOB!

BOYLE, YOU *MUST* BRING HER BACK. . . NEXT TO DUTY, SHE'S THE MOST IM-PORTANT THING IN MY *LIFE!*

REST EASY, GENERAL, THIS JOB IS PRACTICALLY A VACATION FOR ME!

GOD SPEED, SON!

PARIS ANTWERP EXP.

MISS TYNWALL'S IN ROOM 12 - I'LL ANNOUNCE YOU.

DON'T BOTHER!

SO, MY FATHER SENT YOU? WELL, ISN'T THAT SWEET OF HIM! I'M STAYING RIGHT HERE!

BUT.. ANGEL..

DON'T ANGEL ME! I'M OLD ENOUGH TO LIVE MY OWN LIFE! NOW YOU GO ON BACK TO FRANCE LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY!

NOT WITHOUT YOU- EVEN IF I HAVE TO CARRY YOU; I'LL GIVE YOU JUST THREE SEC- ONDS TO--

RING RING

AND I'LL GIVE YOU JUST TWO- TO GET OUT OF HERE!

OH! ABBIE AND MAXIE! I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER TO SEE ANYONE. THERE IS A BIG BOOB HERE-

12

I WANT HIM THROWN OUT. AND I DON'T CARE HOW HARD! GO GET HIM!

2.

VE DON'T LIKE DEES GOINKS ON!

I TINK BETTER YOU ARE TAKING A VALK!

?

?

?

SIT DOWN AND THINK THINGS OVER!

I DON'T LIKE YOUR FRIENDS AND I DON'T LIKE YOU!

WHO CARES WHO YOU LIKE?

LOOK BABE, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED YOU CAN ROT HERE! BUT I'VE GOT A JOB TO DO!

CRACK

I'LL HAVE YOU SHOT! YOU BIG BABOON!

YOU PIG-HEADED BRAT! IF WE DON'T GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE HEINIES COME, WE'LL BOTH BE SHOT!

I DON'T CARE! TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!

I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED!

DO I START, OR DO YOU COME?

OK..OK! I'LL GO! I'LL GO!

3.

START PACKING, "ANGEL"-HUH- YOU'RE MORE TROUBLE THAN A BARREL FULL OF MON-KEYS!

IN JUST A MINUTE..

IF I HAD A GIRL LIKE YOU, I'D...

..JOIN THE FOREIGN LEGION!

WELL I'LL BE!

THE POOR SAP! SHE KNOCKED HERSELF OUT!— OFALL THE SCREWY DAMES I EVER MET!

SERVICE DO

SHE MUSTA FALLEN ON HER HEAD WHEN SHE WAS A BABY!

WOW!

SERVICE DOOR

SLAM!

THAT DIZZY SCREWBALL! IF SHE HADN'T KILLED SO MUCH TIME, WE WOULDA BEEN OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE SAUER-KRAUTS CAME

VUN-TWO VUN-TWO

VUN-TWO-VUN TWO-VUN-

?

TW-

?

HAL-

SHH! QUIET!

SOCK

SHE HAD TOO GOOD A TIME I'M TAKING HER HOME!

CAN SHE GET A FRIEND FOR TO-NIGHT? WHERE DOES SHE LIVE?

THAT BIRD WAS AN AVIATOR--ME FOR THE AIR-PORT

NEAR THE AIRPORT

THAT'S A LOAD FOR YOU TO CARRY SO FAR. I'LL GET YOU A LIFT

YEAH- THIS ONE'S GOT A HONEY OF A BLONDE GIRL FRIEND.

GOOD! TAKE THE LIEUTENANT TO THE AIRPORT

WE'LL MEET YOU HERE AT NINE TONIGHT... WEAR ALL YOUR MEDALS!

I WANT A PLANE, MAJOR. I GOTTA TAKE THIS DAME HOME!

SOME DOLL- SHE GOT A FRIEND?

WE'LL MEET YOU HERE AT NINE - WEAR ALL YOUR MEDALS

BANG

BAM!

BAM

VHERE'D THE GIRL GO?

VOT GIRL?

WHO ARE YOU?

I'M A LIEU-TENANT OF THE AIR FORCE!

UND HE'S GOT YOUR CLOTHES? TO THE AIR PORT!

OH, THEM! THERE THEY GO. SOME DOLL, EH?

DUMMKOPF! VARM UP ANUDDER FAST PLANE

VE MUSTN'T LET THEM LAND!

OH! OH! THE BRITISH WON'T LET ME LAND! AND THAT HEINIE'S GOING TO MAKE IT TOUGH FOR ME UP HERE!

GETTING TOO HOT FOR COMFORT- IF I BAIL OUT, THEY MAY STOP SHOOTING BELOW!

SHE MUSTN'T LAND ALIVE! GIF IT TO THEM!

JA!

WHY, THOSE LOUSY SNAKES! SO IT'S A FIGHT THEY WANT!

RAT TAT TAT

HE GOT US! LOOK- THE MOTOR!

JA! YUMP QVICK!

HEY, IT'S BOYLE!

TAKE THIS DAME TO THE GENERAL, AND GET THOSE GUYS!

AND-FURTHERMORE, GENERAL, YOUR DAUGHTER IS THE DUMBEST TOMATO I'VE EVER MET

WHY! HARUMPH- WHY.../

YOU NINCOMPOOP, HOW DARE YOU TALK THAT WAY? MY DAUGHTER CAUGHT THE LAST TRAIN. YOU FOOL! YOU BROUGHT BACK THE WRONG GIRL!

WHAT'S THAT?

I SAID BOYLE BROUGHT IN HATTER MARY, THE SPY!

I KNEW I COULD DE- PEND ON YOU, SON! IT'S LIKE I ALWAYS SAY AT G.H.Q,- IF THERE'S ONE MAN--

HOW ABOUT THE AWFUL NAMES HE CALLED ME?

QUIET, DAUGHTER! ...OUR ARMY CAN ALWAYS DEPEND ON, IT'S SERGEANT BOYLE!

SERGEANT BOYLE EVERY MONTH IN PEP COMICS

LEE SAMPSON...

MIDSHIPMAN

THE MIDSHIPMEN HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM THEIR SUMMER CRUISE, AND ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN A NEW TERM. WHAT NEW ADVENTURES AND THRILLS DOES THE NEXT YEAR HOLD FOR *MIDSHIPMAN LEE SAMPSON?*

THE HEAD MASTER CALLS THE MIDSHIPMEN TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW TERM!

YOU ALL HAVE A WEEK UNTIL THE TERM OFFICIALLY BEGINS!

AFTER, IN *LEE SAMPSON'S* ROOM!

I'M GOING HOME FOR A WEEK! HOW ABOUT YOU?

I THINK I'LL STICK AROUND AND TAKE IN THE CIRCUS!

ME TOO!

WOW! LOOKA THIS!

WHAT'S UP, SHIPWRECK?

TON POST

3 CENTS

P. HOLDEN'S DAUGHTE MISSING FOR MONTH

HEIRESS LEFT HOME 2ND. — WAS TO BE RRIED TO COUNT

WELL, IT'S NO SKIN OFF MY NOSE ABOUT THE CARRYING ON OF THESE FLUFFY-HEADED DEBS!

S'LONG!

CAN Y'BEAT THAT, A RICH DAME LIKE THAT LEAVING HOME!

FORGET IT, SHIP-WRECK. LET'S GET STARTED FOR THE CIRCUS!

MEANWHILE, IN THE HOME OF J.P. HOLDEN.....

I THINK WE'VE LOCATED YOUR DAUGHTER PERFORMING IN A CARNIVAL NEAR ANNAPOLIS, MR. HOLDEN!

FINE!

WE'LL GO THERE AT ONCE!

SHE'LL SUFFER A LOT MORE IF SHE HAS TO MARRY SOMEONE LIKE YOU!

AH-ZEE POOR CHEECKEN OW SHE MUST 'AVE SUFFER!

QUIET, JEREMIAH. THE COUNT WILL MAKE HER A GOOD MATCH!

LATER—AT THE CIRCUS GROUNDS!

LET'S GO INTO THE CIRCUS TENT, SHIPWRECK!

OKAY!

MEANWHILE, THE BIG LION ACT IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.....

—AND NOW-LADIES AND GENTLE-MEN—

SNAP

WHEE....LOOKA THE LIONS! THEY SURE LOOK FIERCE!

SAY—THAT GIRL LOOKS FAMILIAR!

AT THAT MOMENT, THE HOLDENS ARRIVE!

WHAT COULD JANET POSSIBLY BE DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

HERE'S THE BIG TENT! LET'S LOOK HERE FIRST!

AS THE HOLDENS ENTER THE TENT A LION BREAKS LOOSE!

HELP

HE'S LOOSE!

IT'S JANET, COUNT! SAVE HER!

COUNT! COME BACK!

THAT POOR GIRL! SHE'LL BE TORN TO SHREDS!

OUT OF THE WELTER OF SCRAMBLING FIGURES LEAPS LEE SAMPSON!

HELP!

THIS IS THE WAY I'VE SEEN IT DONE IN THE CIRCUS — HOPE IT WORKS!

RUN! I'LL TRY AND HOLD HIM OFF!

I-I'M GOING TO FAINT!

SHIPWRECK COMES TO LEE'S AID!

HOLD 'EM, NAVY I'M RIGHT WITH YOU!

GRAB THE GUN, SHIPWRECK, AND KEEP SHOOTING.

THE MIDSHIPMEN ATTACK THE LION FROM BOTH SIDES!

KEEP IT UP, SHIPWRECK! WE'VE GOT HIM CONFUSED!

THE BEWILDERED LION IS FINALLY SUBDUED!

WOW! WHAT A SCRAPE!

WE GOT TO GET THIS GIRL AWAY FROM HERE.

LEE CARRIES THE GIRL TO HER TENT AND SOON REVIVES HER!

I RECOGNIZE YOU NOW— YOU'RE JANET HOLDEN, THE RUNAWAY HEIRESS!

PLEASE, DON'T SEND ME BACK!

JANET'S IDENTITY IS OVER-HEARD BY TWO THUGS!

HEAR THAT, SLICK! THAT'S THE HOLDEN DAME!

IF WE SNATCH HER QUICK WE'LL MAKE HER OLD MAN PAY PLENTY!

WELL, WHAT YOU DO IS YOUR OWN BUSINESS, I'M GOING TO SEE IF SHIPWRECK'S OKAY!

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT NOW!

IMMEDIATELY AFTER LEE'S DEPARTURE.....

I GOT HER!

GLUB.....

QUICK! LET'S GET HER TO THE CAR!

OUTSIDE, LEE MEETS SHIPWRECK AND THE HOLDENS!

OH, THERE YOU ARE, LEE, I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU! THESE ARE THE GIRLS PARENTS!

OH, WHERE IS JANET!

THAT WAS A BRAVE ACT OF YOURS, SAVING MY DAUGHTER! THIS....THIS COWARD IS COUNT DE LUCRE, HER FIANCEE!

BUT I WAS TRYING TO SNEAK UP ON THE LION FROM BEHIND!

LEE LEADS THEM BACK TO THE TENT, BUT.....

GREAT SCOTT, SHE'S GONE!

OH, MY BABY!

MEANWHILE, JANET MANAGES TO LOOSEN HER CAPTOR'S HAND FROM HER MOUTH!

HELP! HELP!

GOSH! SHE'S DONE IT NOW!

JANET'S CRIES ARE OVERHEARD!

THAT'S JANET'S VOICE!

...AND SHE'S IN TROUBLE! C'MON, SHIP-WRECK!

WELL, GO ON, COUNT— HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO PROVE THAT SNEAKING-UP BUSINESS!

Y-YES— I GO SAVE HER— DON'T POOSH!

THERE THEY ARE, LEE! LET'S GET 'EM!

LEE AND SHIPWRECK WADE INTO THE THUGS!

WHY YOU...

THESE AMERICANS— THEY PLAY SO ROUGH!

MEANWHILE, THE COUNT EMPLOYS A WAITING STRATEGY!

DURING THE FRACAS, ONE OF THE THUGS TRIES SOME DIRTY WORK ON SHIPWRECK!

THIS IS FOR BUTTIN' IN!

OW

HERE'S OUR CHANCE, SLUG, LET'S MAKE A BREAK!

ARE YOU HURT BADLY, SHIP-WRECK?

NAW— JUST A BUMP ON THE HEAD— BUT SOME BUMP!

JUST THEN, MR. AND MRS. HOLDEN ARRIVE

OH, MY DARLING BABY— DID THOSE BRUTES HURT YOU?

NO, MOTHER, I'M ALL RIGHT!

LET BEAT IT BEFORE THE COPS ARRIVE!

I KEEL THE ONES WHO WEESH TO HURT MY CHEECKEN— WHERE ARE THEY?

JUST THEN THE COUNT APPEARS!

STOP KNOCKING YOURSELF OUT, COUNT. THEY'RE GONE AND YOU'RE SAFE!

AND NOW YOU'RE COMING HOME WITH US, YOUNG LADY!

NOT IF I HAVE TO MARRY THAT..... THAT GOLD-DIGGING NINCOMPOOP!

DON'T WORRY DEAR, YOU WON'T!

BAH, STUPID AMERICANS!

WE'RE SO GRATEFUL TO YOU!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER LIFE, MOTHER AGREED WITH FATHER..... AND BY THE WAY, WHAT WOULD I HAVE TO DO TO JOIN THE NAVY?

DON'T MISS
THE NEXT ISSUE
OF
PEP COMICS
FOR
FURTHER
ADVENTURES
OF
MIDSHIPMAN
LEE SAMPSON

THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

WHEN THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS RETURNED TO HER EMPIRE, SHE WAS TAKEN CAPTIVE BY THE TRAITOR, RETLEK, THE TERRIBLE WHO HAD USURPED HER THRONE. HER FRIENDS, *THE ROCKET*, AND FALKAR, EXILED KING OF THE HAWKMEN, HAVE SWORN TO FREE HER, AND SET HER ONCE MORE ON THE THRONE OF THE DIAMOND EMPIRE!

Abbie Sundell
★ L. STREETER

WE ARE TOO WELL KNOWN BY RETLEK'S MEN. WE MUST ENTER THE CITY UNSEEN.

LET US WAIT UNTIL NIGHTFALL, AND THEN SWIM THE RIVER THAT SURROUNDS THE CITY.

AT MID-NIGHT *THE ROCKET* AND FALKAR SWIM QUIETLY FOR THE SHORES OF THE DIAMOND EMPIRE.

EASY, FALKAR! RETLEK'S PATROL SHIPS KEEP CAREFUL WATCH AT NIGHT.

IF WE GET THROUGH THIS ALIVE---WE'RE JUST GETTING START-ED.

SUDDENLY A SPOTLIGHT PICKS THEM UP. . . .

WE'RE DISCOVERED! LOOKS LIKE OUR PLANS END HERE.

COME CLOSER, STRANGERS, SO WE CAN SEE WHY YOU SWIM THIS TIME OF NIGHT!

IT'S THE ROCKET AND THE HAWK KING!

GOOD! WE'VE BEEN LOOK-ING FOR THEM!

RETLEK'S MEN CAREFULLY TAKE THEIR PRIZE ABOARD SHIP. . . .

PERHAPS, ONCE WE'RE ABOARD, WE MAY BE ABLE TO FIGHT FOR CONTROL OF THE BOAT!

THE ROCKET AND FALKAR SPRING INTO ACTION!

C'MON FALKAR! FOR RIGHT, AND OUR QUEEN!

DOWN WITH THE TRAITORS!

BUT THE ODDS ARE TOO GREAT!

SIR ROCKET AND PRINCE FALKAR, YOUR EFFORTS ARE NOBLE, BUT UNNECESSARY. I AM LOYAL TO THE QUEEN.

TOGETHER, WE MAY BE ABLE TO FREE HER FROM THE TYRANT RETLEK.

GOOD, BUT YOUR MEN, ARE THEY LOYAL TO THE QUEEN ALSO?

LET'S QUESTION THE CREW AND FIND OUT!

CAPTAIN TORNO GATHERS HIS CREW BELOW DECK

MEN! I SEEK YOUR AID. FREE THE QUEEN FROM THE BONDS OF RETLEK THE TERRIBLE. ARE YOU WITH ME?

AYE!

AYE!

LONG LIVE OUR QUEEN!

AYE!

DEATH TO RETLEK!

HURRAY! WE HAVE A FORCE OF MEN, AND AMMUNITION ENOUGH TO TAKE THE PALACE! TONIGHT WE SHALL BRING RETLEK TO HIS KNEES!

SILENTLY, TORNO'S MEN FOLLOW THE ROCKET AS THEIR SHIP LIES AT ANCHOR UNDER HEAVY GUARD!

PERHAPS IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR ME AND A FEW OF MY MEN TO ENTER RETLEK'S PALACE. YOU, SIR ROCKET AND FALKAR HAD BETTER CAPTURE RETLEK'S ROCK-ET SHIP.

GOOD! WHEN WE HAVE IT WE'LL LET OFF A FLARE! YOU BRING THE QUEEN AND COME ARUNNING.

THE TWO PARTIES START OFF FOR THEIR DESTINATIONS. *THE ROCKET* AND HIS SMALL BAND ENTER THE PALACE COURT YARD WHERE RETLEK KEEPS HIS SHIP

HASTEN MEN! HERE COME RETLEK'S GUARDS!

A BRIEF BATTLE-- AND THE GUARDS ARE OVER-COME!

OUT OF OUR WAY, TRAITORS!

THE *ROCKET* FORCES OPEN THE HANGAR DOORS

THE DOOR'S OPENING. YOU SHOOT THE FLARE WHILE I GET THE SHIP READY.

I HOPE TORNO'S LUCK IS AS GOOD AS OURS

ALL READY! LET THAT FLARE GO, FALKAR!

THE HAWK-KING GIVES THE SIGNAL!

MEANWHILE - TORNO PREPARES TO ENTER THE CASTLE

AWAIT THE SIGNAL HERE! WHEN YOU SEE IT, ATTACK THE GUARDS! *KILL ANYONE* WHO MIGHT STAND BETWEEN THE QUEEN AND SAFETY!

AYE, CAPTAIN, YOU CAN DEPEND ON US!

CAPTAIN TORNO, REPORTING. LET ME THROUGH!

RETLEK, THE TERRIBLE, IS EXPECTING YOU, PASS!

THERE'S THE SIGNAL! I'VE NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!

YOUR TIME HAS COME RETLEK! YOUR MAJESTY, THE ROCKET AWAITS YOU, IN THE COURT YARD!

YOU SHALL PAY FOR THIS, YOU MUTINOUS DOG!

ONE FALSE MOVE RETLEK AND IT'S YOUR LAST!

THEIR PLAN HAS WORKED TO PERFECTION. THE ROCKET SHIP IS READY, AND RETLEK'S DEAD GUARDS STREW THE COURTYARD.

SIR ROCKET! FALKAR!

GOOD WORK TORNO!

WITH A MIGHTY BLAST, THE ROCKET SHIP TAKES OFF!

MEANWHILE THE HANGAR GUARDS HAVE RECOVERED SUFFICIENTLY TO SPREAD THE ALARM.

BRING DOWN THAT ROCKET SHIP.

THE BATTERY GUNNERS TAKE AIM

AND OPEN FIRE ON THE ROCKET SHIP

YOU HAD BEST INFORM YOUR GUARDS THAT IF THEY KILL US, THEY KILL *YOU TOO!*

RETLEK SPEAKS TO THE PALACE GUARDS ON THE INTRA-SPACE VIBRA-GRAPH!

CEASE *FIRING MEN,* I AM AT THE MERCY OF THE ROCKET AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS!

TELL YOUR MEN TO DESTROY THEIR BATTERIES AND PREPARE TO SURRENDER

--AND LAY DOWN YOUR ARMS, PREPARE THE EMPIRE FOR THE RETURN OF THE QUEEN!

ONE BY ONE, RETLEK'S GUN EMPLACEMENTS ARE BLOWN TO BITS. . .

OUR BATTLE WAS SHORT BUT OUR VICTORY IS COMPLETE, YOU SHALL AGAIN RULE!

BUT RETLEK IS NOT YET DEFEATED! HE SLIPS HIS BONDS AND REACHES FOR A DEADLY GAMMA-GUN.

CURSE THEM! THEY SHALL FEEL MY WRATH!

REACH HIGH GENTLEMEN, NOW I HAVE THE UPPER HAND.

CAN RETLEK THE TERRIBLE REGAIN CONTROL OF THE DIAMOND EMPIRE? - - - AND WHAT FURTHER ADVENTURES ARE IN STORE FOR *THE ROCKET*, AND THE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS.

SEE THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS

WHEN SATAN PLAYED SAINT

CHARLES BRADLEY raised the devil with the good gold money of the United States Treasury Department for years. But he did not look like a devil. Nature provided Charles Bradley with the mask of a saint. Especially in his later years Bradley looked more like the curate of a country church than an arch criminal. It might have been because Bradley was an artist and prided himself on his art.

Bradley died some years ago in the Colorado State Penitentiary at Canon City a demise recorded with a degree of satisfaction by the United States Secret Service department. It was through Bradley's own connivance that he was given enough years to insure his dying behind prison bars. He explained it thus:

"When I'm at large I just can't help priding myself on my artistic jeweler's ability to ream gold coins —and I just can't help working hard at it. I guess it's better this time if I have to do it all."

There was no violence to Bradley. He never resisted arrest. He always gave his defense attorneys severe pains in the necks by assuming an air of injured innocence and 'fessing up like a school boy.

The reason Bradley was out so often, after serving short terms, only to get in again was his childlike demeanor when in custody. His kindly manners won favor with parole boards. Even social workers and some High Society dames were attracted to Bradley's case at intervals. There was something about his tall, lean stalwart frame and clear blue eyes that appealed to people.

Bradley went wrong when serving at a jeweler's workbench as a young man. He remained wrong probably because it was easy and profitable. He said that during his lunch hour one day he read in the newspaper of the arrest of a man for "sweating" gold coins. Bradley had just received a $20 gold piece in his wages. The newspaper said that the accused had acid washed $8.50 from a $10 gold piece.

"That's crude," Bradley said he decided. "If he had reamed it he could have taken $7.50 and it could be done in a way to defy detection."

SO BRADLEY tried it on his $20 gold piece. He bored a tiny hole through the edge. Without disturbing the milling or the surface at any other point, he chiseled out $17.50 worth of gold from the one coin. He put enough jeweler's cement back through the tiny hole to make the coin weigh exactly what it should. He sealed the tiny hole and passed the coin. Then he sold the gold he had extracted.

Bradley could work five twenties a day in this manner. Naturally he profited and had a royal good time with his ill-gotten gold. They nabbed him often enough, though, usually when he appeared at some bank to change currency into gold.

Bradley was the daddy of this process of defrauding the Government. Also, he was the cleverest mutilator of coins ever to have lived. There have been many other reamers of gold coins but none who could leave a thinner shell of gold or work through a smaller hole.

The withdrawal of gold from circulation has about completely done away with this interesting and skillful pastime.

THE END

STEEL STERLING - MAN OF STEEL—
EVERY MONTH IN ZIP COMICS

Meet THE SKULL !!!

THE GREATEST CRIMINAL MENACE IN THE HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION !!

Featuring THE BLACK HOOD

No. 9

TOP NOTCH COMICS

MAN OF MYSTERY

10¢

OCT.

with ROY THE SUPER BOY

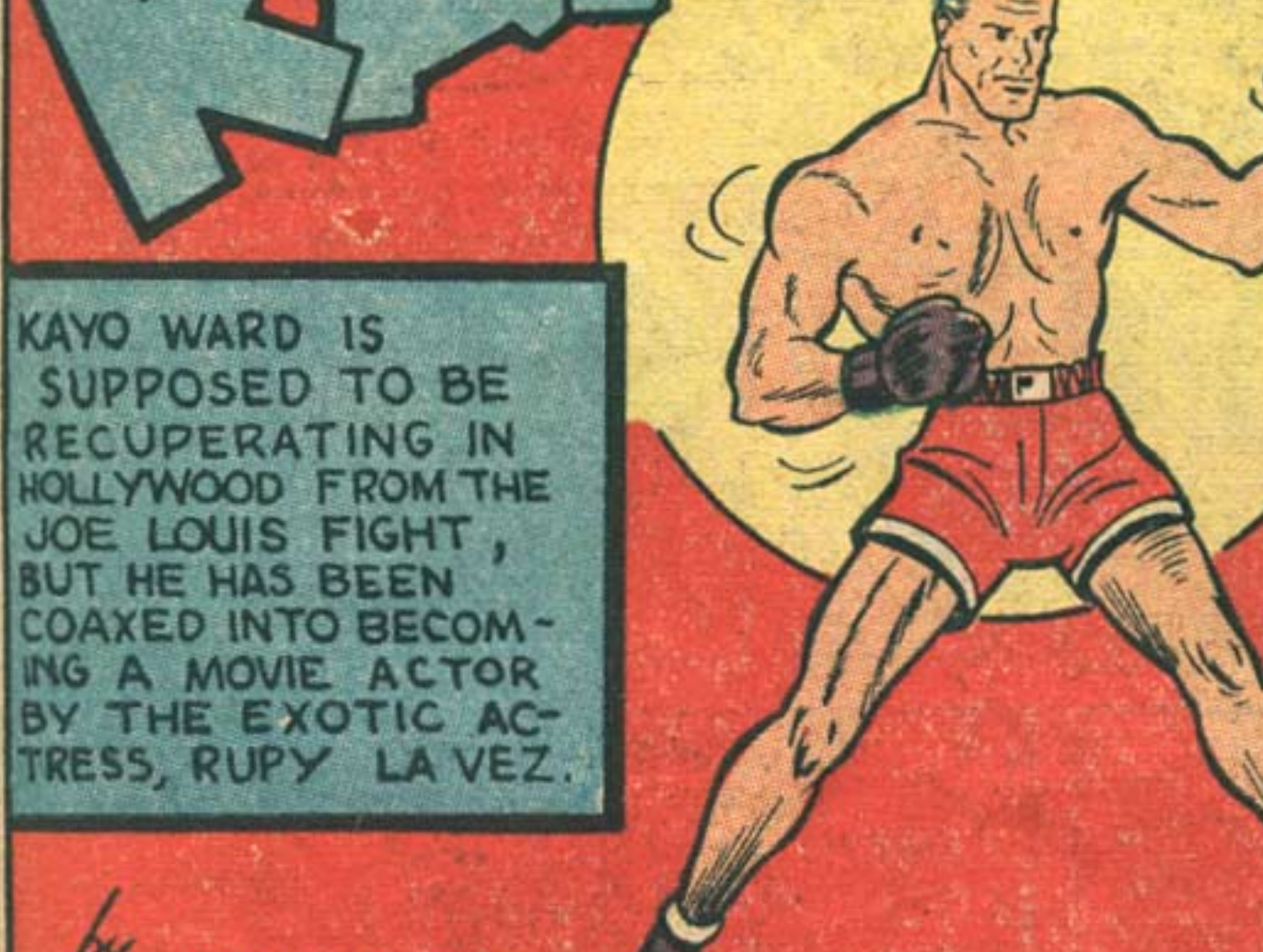
EVIL FIGHTS AGAINST GOOD WHEN *THE SKULL*, CROSSES WITS, BRAWN AND GUNS WITH **THE BLACK HOOD**..... THE WORLDS MOST MYSTERIOUS CRIME BUSTER..... *And*

THE WIZARD - THE MAN WITH THE SUPER·BRAIN *with* **ROY THE SUPER·BOY** ARE WITH US AGAIN IN THIS SMASHING, ACTION-PACKED MAGAZINE! ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS!

KAYO WARD

KAYO WARD IS SUPPOSED TO BE RECUPERATING IN HOLLYWOOD FROM THE JOE LOUIS FIGHT, BUT HE HAS BEEN COAXED INTO BECOMING A MOVIE ACTOR BY THE EXOTIC ACTRESS, RUPY LA VEZ.

by BOB WOOD — AND HARRY SHORTEN



KAYO HAS EARNED THE JEALOUSY OF RONALD SLEEK WHOSE ROLE HE HAS TAKEN

IN THE OFFICE OF MORTIMER J. GINSBURG — KAYO'S PRODUCER —

NOT SINCE "GONE WITH THE WIND," HAS A PREVIEW AROUSED SO MUCH PUBLIC INTEREST. KAYO IS ON EVERY CRITIC'S TONGUE!

AND HERE WE ARE IN HOLLYWOOD, FOLKS, AT GRAUMAN'S CHINESE THEATRE FOR THE PREVIEW OF "HOT LIPS AND HOT FISTS" — AND HERE'S CLARK GABLE OVER ON MY RIGHT!

HELLO, EVERYBODY! KAYO WARD'S GOT ME WORRIED. IF HE'S AS GOOD AS I HEAR, I'LL MAKE AN APPLICATION FOR W.P.A. HA, HA!

SAY A FEW WORDS, CLARK.

BERGEN AND MCCARTHY SOON ARRIVE

SAY SOMETHING FUNNY, CHARLIE, FOR THE FOLKS!

WHY SHOULD I? EVERYTIME I PULL A GAG YOU GET PAID FOR IT!

UH, UH! HERE THEY COME, FOLKS. THE ONES YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. KAYO WARD AND RUPY LA VEZ!

GEE WHIZ!

OOH, ISN'T HE WONDERFUL

LET'S GET HIS AUTOGRAPH

GOSH! I HARDLY KNOW WHAT TO SAY. MISS RUPY CERT'NY IS A MARVELOUS ACTRESS.

HA, HA. SUCH MODESTY!

OH YES! AND I ALMOST FORGOT, RONALD SLEEK IS HERE, TOO! HE USED TO BE RUPY'S LEADING MAN, REMEMBER?

BAH!

2

THE PREVIEW THEN BEGINS —

HOT FISTS
AND
HOT LIPS
FEATURING
KAYO WARD
AND
RUPY LA VEZ
IN TECHNICOLOR

AS KAYO IS FLASHED ON THE SCREEN, HE RECEIVES THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE —

KAYO WARD AS "SLUG" CARTER

AS THE PICTURE CONTINUES, *KAYO'S* ACTING STARTLES THE CRITICS AND SPECTATORS...

C'MON SLUG - *YOU'VE GOT TO WIN!*

POW

THE WINNAH!

I'LL NEVER STOP LOVING YOU, DARLING!

The End

A SUNDELL PRODUCTION

CLAP CLAP CLAP

BRAVO CLAP

AFTERWARDS, IN THE LOBBY.. *KAYO* AND RUPY MEET THE CRITICS....

-AND THIS IS JIMMIE FIDDLE OF THE N Y REFLECTION *KAYO!*

HOWDY, MR FIDDLE..

YOU WOWED 'EM, KAYO! YOU'LL RATE 4 ORCHIDS IN MY COLUMN...

PRODUCER GINSBURG IN-FORMSTHE CROWD OF A CELEBRATION

AND NOW—FOLKS I'M GIVING YOU ALL A LITTLE PARTY AT PUNCHY'S PAVILION!

AT PUNCHY'S PAVILION—FAMOUS HOLLYWOOD HOT SPOT—

KAYO, MEET PUNCHY NOZENBLOOM, EX-LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT! HE OWNS THIS PLACE!

PLEASE TO MEETCHA, I'M CERTAIN!

ME TOO!

YOU SURE MADE A HIT, KAYO!

YOU 'AV MAKE ZE HIT WIZ ..... RUPY, TOO, KAYO. LET'S DANCE!

OH KAYO! YOU 'AV MAKE RUPY SOO HAPPY— WE WEEL 'AV SOO MUCH FUN TOGETHER, YES?

RONNY, WHO HAS BEEN LEFT OUT IN THE COLD, SULKS AT ANOTHER TABLE

FIRST HE STEALS MY PART IN THE PICTURE AND NOW MY GIRL— I'LL GET EVEN WITH THAT GUY!

RONNY HITS ON A PLAN

SAY, PUNCHY, YOU WERE A PRETTY GOOD FIGHTER, WEREN'T YOU?

DA BEST!

KAYO WARD SAYS YOU COULDN'T LICK A POSTAGE STAMP!

WHY, DA BUM! I'LL TEAR HIM APART!

YOU'VE GOT TO SHOW IT TO ME!

OKAY, I'LL BRING YOU BACK A FEW OF HIS TEETH!

DERE HE IS! HE'S GOT A NOIVE! I'LL KNOCK HIM INTO DA MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK!

HEY, YOU, WARD, C'MON IN MY OFFICE I WANNA HAVE A LITTLE LITTLE TALK WID YOU!

WHY, UH, SURE! 'SCUSE ME, FOLKS!

PUNCHY'S BOUNCERS WATCH KAYO AS HE FOLLOWS THEIR BOSS

HEY, SNOOKY! LOOK..... SUMPIN'S UP!

YEAH, MAYBE DE BOSS NEEDS SOME STRONG ARM STUFF

SO I CAN'T LICK A POSTAGE STAMP, HUH..... WISE-GUY!

BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

SURE!

OH, OH! LET'S GET TO WORK ON THAT GUY

TAKE IT EASY, BOSS. WE'LL HANDLE DIS FRESH MUG!

DAT'S RIGHT, PUNCHY. DON'T WASTE YER VALOOBLE TIME WID HIM!

BAM SOCK BIFF

HOLY CHEE!

DE GUY AIN'T HUMAN!

5

I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO GIT TO WOIK ON YEZ MYSELF.

I DON'T WANT NO TROUBLE WITH YOUSE. PLEASE DON'T!

I'M GIVIN' YOU DA DOUBLE CORK-SCREW PUNCH! HERE SHE COMES!

THIS IS RIDIKERLESS

YOU ORTA KNOW BETTER'N LEAD WITH YOUR RIGHT.

LEAD WITH YOUR LEFT, LIKE THIS!

WAKE UP, PUNCHY.

HUH! WHAT ROUND IS IT!

WHAT A WALLOP! I GUESS YOU WERE RIGHT WHEN YOU SAID YOU COULD LICK ME!

I NEVER SAID THAT!

DID YOU FIX HIM, PUNCHY?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?.... AND DAT REMINDS ME!

!

YOU COULD USE A LITTLE FIXIN YERSELF!

DAT'S FER GIVIN' ME A WRONG STEER ABOUT A SWELL GUY LIKE KAYO

FRUM NOW ON WE'RE BUDDIES, KAYO. I FIXED DAT RAT, RONNY!

YOU'SE SHUNT OF DONE THAT.

THAT....THAT VIXEN, LA VEZ IS TRYING TO STEAL KAYO FROM ME! I'M GOING RIGHT OUT TO HOLLYWOOD

LOOKS LIKE KAYO IS IN FOR A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE --A JEALOUS WOMAN IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN A DOZEN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPS.. DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF

PEP COMICS

BENTLEY of SCOTLAND YARD

THE CASE OF THE VAMPIRE MURDERS !!

By S. COOPER

STORY BY · JOE BLAIR

IN THE CASTLE OF COUNT HASSAN ON THE MOORS!

IS THE COUNT READY TO CONDUCT THE SEANCE?

YES, LADY STOWE! IS EVERYONE READY?

WILL SOMEONE TURN OFF THE LIGHTS? BUT LEAVE THE CANDLE BURNING!

I'M FRIGHTENED, JACK!

NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF, PATRICIA!

IRENE SCOTT SNAPS OFF THE LIGHTS!

ALL RIGHT, COUNT! GET READY TO CALL THE SPIRITS!

THE COUNT APPEARS TO GO INTO A TRANCE!

OH, SPIRITS OF THE DECEASED! WE AWAIT YOUR MESSAGE!

THE CANDLE IS SNUFFED OUT!

AS THE ROOM IS PLUNGED INTO COMPLETE DARKNESS....A HORRIBLE SCREAM RENDS THE AIR!

HHHEEELLLPPP! OHHH!

TURN ON THE LIGHTS! QUICK!

LET ME OUT OF HERE!

JACK BACON MANAGES TO SNAP THE SWITCH!

GOOD HEAVENS! SHE'S BEEN ATTACKED BY A VAMPIRE!

IMPOSSIBLE! THIS IS SOME HIDEOUS JOKE!

IT'S LADY STOWE!

ARTIE OSBERG EXAMINES THE VICTIM'S BODY!

GET SCOTLAND YARD!

YES, THIS IS *INSPECTOR BENTLEY!* WHAT!!...COUNT HASSAN'S CASTLE?.. ...I'LL LEAVE RIGHT AWAY!

WELL, HERE WE ARE! NOW TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!

BUT THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A VAMPIRE, *INSPECTOR!* SOMEBODY IN THIS ROOM MURDERED LADY STOWE!

PLEASE ALLOW ME TO DECIDE THAT, COUNT! NOW, IF YOU'LL ALL GO TO YOUR ROOMS.....

GOOD HEAVENS! IF WE'RE ALONE IN OUR ROOMS AND.....

YOU'RE LEAVING US UNPROTECTED IN CASE THE VAMPIRE COMES BACK!

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

DON'T MIND HIM, *INSPECTOR!* GOOD NIGHT!

THEY'VE GONE! NOW TO DO A LITTLE INVESTIGATING!

THE COUNT MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT A MARSHMALLOW ROAST THEY HAD, BEFORE STARTING THE SEANCE.. ....HMM!

MARSHMALLOW

HERE'S THE FORK THEY USED FOR ROASTING. I WONDER!

AND A BRASS PLATE LYING HERE SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT I'M RIGHT!

WHILE ON THE BALCONY ABOVE *BENTLEY*.....

THE MEDDLING FOOL! THIS WILL FIX HIM!

NOT THIS TIME, COUNT HASSAN! STAND WHERE YOU ARE!

THIS WINDS UP TONIGHT'S LITTLE PARTY.....ALMOST!

I....I HAD TO DO IT, INSPECTOR!

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

PLEASE CALL THE OTHERS! WE'LL WAIT BELOW!

WELL, INSPECTOR.... I SEE YOU CAUGHT HIM!

ALMOST, MR. BACON! ALMOST!

HA! THIS IS YOUR LAST CASE, INSPECTOR!

YOU HAD MOST OF THE CASE STRAIGHT, BUT.....

SORRY I HAD TO DO IT, SIR!

IT'S A GOOD THING FOR ME YOU WERE THE AMATEUR FENCING CHAMPION OF THE CONTINENT!

I'M AFRAID YOU HAD IT COMING!

UGG!

I GUESS THAT'S THE END OF A MURDER!

UNFORTUNATELY, NO! THE PERSON WHO MURDERED LADY STOWE IS VERY MUCH ALIVE!

I HAVE NO MORE INFORMATION THAN ANY OF YOU, BUT WITH ALL THE EVIDENCE AT HAND, YOU SHOULD ALL KNOW HOW THE MURDER WAS COMMITTED, AND BY WHOM!

BENTLEY HAS SOLVED THE MYSTERY. HAVE YOU?

MARK YOUR CHOICE FOR THE MURDERER AMONG THE FOLLOWING.....

ARTIE OSBERG ____
PATRICIA SMITH ____
IRENE SCOTT ____
JACK BACON ____

SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR THE SOLUTION.....

AS YOU ALL KNOW, COUNT HASSAN WAS SLIGHTLY DERANGED. THAT ACCOUNTS FOR HIS ATTEMPT TO SHOOT ME. BUT.....

THE MARKS ON LADY STOWE'S NECK WERE NOT CAUSED BY THE BITE OF A VAMPIRE! THEY WERE INFLICTED BY THAT FORK ON WHICH YOU WERE ROASTING MARSHMALLOWS!

AFTER SLAYING HIS VICTIM, THE KILLER KNOCKED THAT PLATE ON THE FLOOR TO COVER THE NOISE THE FORK MADE WHEN HE THREW IT BACK IN THE FIREPLACE!

IN OTHER WORDS, THIS WAS A CAREFULLY PLANNED MURDER?

NOT AT ALL. THE PERSON WHO DID IT WAS AN OPPORTUNIST! WHEN THE CANDLE SUDDENLY WENT OUT, HE SAW HIS CHANCE AND MADE IT GOOD!

I'LL ADMIT NONE OF US LIKED THE OLD LADY; BUT WHO DID HER IN?

ONLY ONE PERSON HERE COULD POSSIBLY HAVE THRUST THAT FORK AS NEATLY AS IT WAS DONE! THAT MAN IS.....

JACK BACON!

THAT'S RIGHT! THE AMATEUR FENCING CHAMPION OF EUROPE!

I DID IT! I DID IT! AND I'M GLAD! SHE SET ME UP IN BUSINESS AND THEN TRIED TO RUIN ME FOR THREE YEARS!

SMART WORK, *INSPECTOR!*

NOT ESPECIALLY! IT'S JUST THAT CRIMINAL KILLERS ARE ALWAYS JUST A LITTLE DUMBER THAN WE AT SCOTLAND YARD!

ANOTHER THRILLING MYSTERY SOLVED BY..... *"BENTLEY OF SCOTLAND YARD"* IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **PEP COMICS**

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World Mike

Made especially for home use, attached in a jiffy without tools. **Not a toy.** Put on your own programs at home, parties, club affairs, etc. Barrels of fun! Easy to operate.

Price Only 25c

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Fly your own plane! Book of plans telling how to build a low priced plane from junk yard parts. 10 lessons Flying Course. Ground School. **Price 25c**

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Smart, low-priced emblems for sewing on sweater, jacket, gym shirt, etc. Each emblem cut out, ready to sew. Made of felt with design in several colors. Plenty of flash! Fine for clubs, etc. Easily sewed on. Choice of **INDIAN, PIRATE, TIGER, DEVIL, SKULL & CROSSBONES, OWL, WINGED FOOT, SHIELD & WINGS, WINGED ROLLER SKATE, WINGED BASKETBALL.** State choice. Price (3 for 40c) Each Postpaid . . **15c**

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Gold Stitched Felt, Sew On Dress, Sweater, Etc.

BOYS! GIRLS! Latest sensation! Beautiful colored felt double hearts, as illustrated, with words "ME and YOU" on them. Then, any two names sewed on in **GOLD COLOR** stitched embroidery. Price includes two names. Sew on sweater, swim suit, dress, jacket, gym suit, etc. 6" wide, 3½" deep. Red, green or purple heart. (Red sent unless specified otherwise.) **STATE BOTH NAMES.**

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Electric Baseball Game

Pitcher can pitch a slow ball, "knuckler," "fast ball" or "curveball." Batter can bunt or actually swing a bat! Over 100 novel plays! Strikes, swinging and called. Balls high, wide, low, etc. Batter hits Grounders, Doubles, Triples, Home Runs, Errors. Base-runner hit by batted ball. Out at Home, etc. Scientifically constructed. Completely electric. (Without batteries.) Price . . . **$1.00**

Batteries. (2 required) Price Each 10c

Mysterious Running Mouse

Almost alive! The little mouse runs from one hand to other, climbs up glass, turns around and goes up sleeve, etc. No mechanism whatever. Price **10c**

Win Prize Contests

This book may not make you rich, but it might show you how to make a good living. Tells some of the methods and principles contestants use in the big prize contests which are announced almost daily. According to reports from readers of the book, the contents are a real source of assistance in overcoming some of the problems offered by prize contests. Gives hints on winning entries. Price Postpaid **10c**

Boys! Wear This Swell Mounted Police Suit

BOYS! Who wouldn't want to wear this swell uniform which is almost exact reproduction of the famous Royal Canadian Mounted Police Suit. And doesn't it look snappy. Has bright, polished buttons. Smart red coat with four flap pockets, smartly made to look good. Blue breeches with stripe running down side. Leggings. Regular Sam Browne mounted belt with sheet strap, holster and large imitation gun. Trim hat. Badge and collar ornaments that give that "official" look. Suit entirely complete. Sizes 4 to 14. Postpaid . . **$4.25**

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Set for only 15c! Use it as a practice set or send messages to friends sending and receiving. Learn code easily and quickly. Be an expert operator. Key, sounder, magnet, etc., mounted on base with blank, code & directions. (Without battery.) **Price Postpaid Only . . 15c**

BOYS! BOYS! BOYS! LEARN VENTRILOQUISM AND APPARENTLY
THROW YOUR VOICE

Into a trunk, under the bed or anywhere. Lots of fun fooling teacher, policeman or friends.

THE VENTRILO A little instrument, fits in the mouth out of sight, used with above for Bird Calls, etc. Also known as double throat. Complete book with full course on Vent-riloquism together with Ventrilo **10c**

KEY-TO-MY-HEART [redacted]

A new style brooch that [redacted] Makes a novel [redacted] The insigne reads, "Key to my heart" that should not take long for most people to find out. A beautiful charm brooch that is exceptionally popular. Price Postpaid **15c**

SPEEDY "STEAM" BOAT

IT GOES! Under Its Own Power!

A well-balanced craft, light and graceful—a boat that fairly skims over the water at a nice rate of speed—just like a real boat—on its own power. Floats on an "even keel." Has plenty of beauty and flash. Runs around in a lake, bath or wash tub. Made of metal throughout and brilliantly enameled. Has its own boiler arrangement and when in motion makes a noise not unlike the exhaust of an outboard motor. **PRICE EACH BOAT POSTPAID 15c**

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$1.00

Build Wireless Control Boats & Planes

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Simplified plans for constructing models of sailors to operate boats and planes by remote control. 10 signals that can be transmitted—lights, rudder, motor, etc. Simplified comprehensive plans. No wires or connections. Control is by wireless radio. Description and interpretation of plans accompany the drawings. Price Postpaid **25c**

TELEPHONES 20c PAIR

No Batteries

Give to a set of phones which carries the voice clearly for distances from 50 to 100 feet, yet they sell for only **20c a pair!** Uses no battery or electricity—just the one connection. Two metal phones (each is speaker and receiver) and transmission cord. Price Postpaid Only . . **20c**

CRYSTAL RADIO 25c

This is a radio in itself as it is possible to get reception with it alone within 25 miles of a station for up to 100 miles under good conditions. All you need is an aerial & ear phone. Completely assembled & wired with superexplosive crystal, stand, base, crystal cup, arm with cat's whisker, etc. Reception guaranteed. **25c**

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It looks like a deadly weapon, but it is merely a novel Cigarette Case. Better than the real thing in many an awkward encounter. Great fun "sticking up" your friends. They squirm and protest. Pull the trigger and the slide flies open, disclosing cigarettes. Price . . **25c**

ELECTRIC MOTOR 15c

Real Electric Motor! All the parts packed in a neat box with full instructions for assembling. No trouble at all in putting it together—it's FUN! Takes but a few minutes. And OH BOY! You'll have speedy fun on a 3½, 6 or similar dry battery. Educational — novel — unique. Price Postpaid . . . 15c

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Here's a sensational bargain! A complete student's microscope set, only 39c! Fine magnifying, microscope, adjustable table and mirror, complete with slides. Examine the wonders of the world. Study skin, insects, cloth, hood, etc. Scientific, interesting. Good quality lens. Price Postpaid Only . . . **39c**

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More popular than ever. Write secret messages between lines, under stamp. With directions for making it appear. Used by spies. **Price Per Bottle Postpaid . . . 10c**

Never Miss FISH HOOKS

Catch Fish! 15c

A nibble shoots them off, and hooks the fish safely. And they seldom get away. Illustration shows how the hook works. When the fish bites, the second hook strikes the fish outside the hand. The longer the fish pulls the tighter the hook holds. Simple, strong and durable. Price Each Hook Postpaid Only **15c**

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Water Wings impart such confidence to water that you can learn to swim and float at once. Expert swimmers use them to cover long distances, to swim in deep water, etc. Will support up to 180 lbs. Can be carried in the pocket and blown up when arriving at seashore. Price **25c**

YACHT CAPS 25c

Smart, snappy. Just what every real boy is wearing. Cool and comfortable. White Twill Yacht Cap, with black oilcloth peak, sweat band, gold braid and brass buttons with anchor. Price . . . **25c**

White Duck Yacht Cap, superior quality duck, white celluloid visor, gold cord, brass buttons and anchor. State size. Price Postpaid **35c**

WHOOPEE CUSHION 25c

Whoopee Cushion is made of rubber, inflated like a balloon and then placed on a chair, couch, seat, etc. When the victim unsuspectingly sits upon the cushion, it gives forth noises better imagined than described. **25c**

Price Only . . .

BALANCED THROWING KNIFE

Perfectly balanced throwing knife. Fine for small game hunting. Used in olden days as hunting aid to bow and arrow. A deadly weapon at close range both for fish and game. Leather sheath. Price **$1.98**

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Looks like ancient cryptic writing, but just give it a spin and it reads "I Love You." Flip the ring at the proper moment before your girl. It also makes a suitable pendant to hang on chain, etc. Gilt finish, black lettering Price Postpaid **25c**

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Any high school initials inserted in this ring, such as "DHS" for Detroit High School, etc. Current year numerals are across the bottom. Initials mean gold finish, black and rhodium plated initials. Attractive ring. "HS" is in ring. State first initial desired. Give ring size. Price Postpaid . . . **39c**

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In Sterling Silver, $1.00

250 Tricks

Contains wonderful tricks with cards, coins, cigarette, glasses, rings, etc., etc. Simple to perform, yet baffling. If instrument **10c**

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Contains tricks and card deceptions used by magicians and card sharpers. Describes how gamblers cheat and win. Price **25c**

Live Chameleon

Watch It Change Color!

A LIVE PET

25c

Get one of these most wonderful creatures. Watch it change color. Study its habits. Wear one in the lapel of your coat as a curiosity. Shoots out its tongue to catch flies and insects for food. Can go for months without food. Almost lives on the air it breathes. Live delivery Guaranteed. Price Postpaid **25c**

Live Turtle With Your Name On It

Each turtle is attractively painted on its back with bright enamel and **YOUR NAME** is printed right on. These turtles are extremely docile and will live for years and years without any trouble. Study their habits. Safe, live delivery Guaranteed. Print your name clearly. **PRICE POSTPAID Now Turtle Racing Game, 10c . . . 35c**

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